

Louisiana State University in Shreveport
Staff Senate
Minutes
July 22, 2009

The LSUS Staff Senate meeting was called to order by President Elmer Tingler at 2:02 PM on Wednesday, July 22, 2009. Staff Senators present included: Darlenna Atkins, Alicia Atkins, Becky Berry, Chelsey Chance, Alex Mitchell, Darlene Player, Katie Simpson, Elmer Tingler and Bridget Verret. Staff Senators absent were: Cyndi Armstrong, Don Bloxom, Terry Byrd, Rita Lott, Tulin Melancon and Roger West.

Minutes from the June 10, 2009 Staff Senate meeting were approved as written.

President's Comments

President Elmer Tingler attended the Staff Council meeting in Baton Rouge on Thursday, July 16, 2009. He also attended the Board of Supervisors meeting on the same day. The Executive Committee of the LSUS Staff Senate met at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, July 22, 2009 to discuss roles, responsibilities and the upcoming year.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Chelsey Chance reported that the Staff Senate will not receive the \$3,000 from the LSUS general fund. There is currently \$2,300 in the Staff Senate account. Ms. Chance will conduct an email campaign to LSUS employees for participating in the Staff Senate Support Fund. Employees can voluntarily elect to participate in the fund with a minimum of \$1 from each pay period. Darlene Player moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion carried.

Current/Old Business

LSUS Update

Chancellor Marsala updated those present at the Staff Senate meeting on the budget cuts/crisis. The LSU System received \$80 million in stimulus money from the Federal Government. The stimulus money will only last one more year. LSUS was proactive in the reorganization efforts and also did not fill vacant position which helped the university. More reorganization and potential downsizing may be in the future due to State budget situation not improving.

Staff Senate President Elmer Tingler asked Chancellor Marsala about merit raises. The Chancellor responded that there were no merit raises. Any increases in salaries were due to promotions, changes in duties or reorganization.

Senator Darlene Player asked when the reorganization of the LSUS campus would go into effect. The Chancellor responded that reorganization efforts are already in effect and will continue in the fall term. The LSUS campus was praised by the LSU System for their efforts.

Adnan Samhan asked what is in the future, knowing what LSUS knows now. The Chancellor responded that in the new few months, LSUS will have more information but will not wait until the last minute to plan. The Tucker Commission meets in August to discuss and propose changes to higher education. The Commission consists of nine voting member and two ex-officio members.

Business Affairs

Mike Ferrell, Vice Chancellor of Business Affairs, was available to answer any questions from those present at the meeting. No questions were asked.

Civil Service Update

DeAnn Arnold, Director of Human Resources, discussed the request for proposals for restructuring merit increases by the Civil Service Commission. This request for proposals is still in the infancy stage so no other information was known. Last year, 98% of State employees received merit increases.

LSUS conducted new employee training recently for four new employees hired over the last several months.

Old Business

No other old business to discuss.

New Business

President Tingler discussed Staff Senate committees and asked Senators to consider participating on those committees. He also presented the elections for vacant positions. A current employee listing is in development and will be presented at the September meeting. The Staff Senate website will also be updated over the course of the next few months.

Other Comments

No other comments.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 PM.